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TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:MEDIA REPORT - NEWSPAPERS AND WIRES, SATURDAY,

MARCH 8, 1975

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 7

SUMMARY:IN PREVIEW PIECES, WIRES AND NEWSPAPERS COMMENT ON MOOD IN ME ON EVE OF KISSINGER-SADAT TALKS. BRIEF MENTION ALSO MADE OF MEETING WITH BITSIOS WITH VARYING DEGREES OF CERTAINTY EXPRESSED ON LIKELIHOOD OF KISSINGER - ESENBEL MEETING IN NEAR FUTURE. AP REPORTS THAT SECRETARY WILL ALSO MEET WITH GROMYKO IN ABOUT A WEEK.

NEWSPAPERS

1. NYTIMES (GWERTZMAN, BRUSSELS, PAGE 3) -- HEADLINE: KISSINGER FLIES TO EGYPT TO SEEK ACCORD ON SINAI. EXCERPTS: ... HAK EXPECTS DURING HIS FULL DAY OF TALKS WITH SADAT TOMORROW TO GET FROM HIM A MORE DETAILED EGYPTIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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PROPOSAL THAN HAS BEEN PUT FORWARD UP TO NOW IN THE PRE-LIMINARY DIPLOMATIC RECONNOITERING CARRIED OUT BY HAK...

DESPITE CONTINUING PRESS REPORTS FROM EGYPT SUGGESTING THAT

A SINAI AGREEMENT WAS VIRTUALLY IN FINAL FORM, HAK AND HIS

TOP AIDES INSISTED AGAIN TODAY ABOARD THE AIR FORCE 707, DURING A FLIGHT TO BRUSSELS FROM LONDON, THAT NO DETAILS HAD BEEN FIXED AND THAT THE POSSIBILITY REMAINED THAT THE GAP SEPARATING EGYPT AND ISRAEL MIGHT NOT BE BRIDGED.

PRIOR TO DEPARTING FOR EGYPT, HAK MET ... WITH THE GREEK FM BITSIOS, FOR A DISCUSSION OF GREEK-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE CYPRUS CONFLICT.

THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IS EAGER TO SETTLE THE CYRPUS ISSUE, AND HAK WAS READY TO OFFER HIS HELP IN SERVING AS AN UNOFFICIAL MEDIATOR WITH THE TURKS, PERHAPS SEEING THE TURKISH FM ESENBEL, SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE IN COMING WEEKS DURING A BREAK IN THE ME DIPLOMACY.

HAK ... ALSO INDICATED CONCERN THAT THE ARAB GUERRILLA RAID IN TEL AVIV TWO DAYS AGO HAD MADE THIS ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS MORE DIFFICULT, POSSIBLY INCREASING PRESSURES ON SADAT NOT TO MAKE THE KIND OF COMPROMISES REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE AN ACCORD WITH ISRAEL.

ESSENTIALLY, THE SHAPE OF THE SECOND-STAGE SINAI AGREEMENT ENVISAGED BY HAK CALLS FOR A SUBSTANTIAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, RETURNING TO EGYPT THE ABU RUDEIS OILFIELDS AND

STRATEGIC MOUNTAIN PASSES.

ALTHOUGH THE AREAS WOULD REVERT TO EGYPT SOVEREIGNTY, THEY WOULD PROBABLY BY UNDER DEMILITARIZATION CURBS.

BUT FOR THE ISRAELI CITIZENS TO ACCEPT THE LOSS OF THE STRATEGIC GIDI AND MITLA PASSES AND THE ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT OILFIELDS, SADAT WILL HAVE TO AGREE, AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAY, TO A PUBLIC DOCUMENT THAT INCLUDES AT LEAST SOME OF THE 'NONBELLIGERENCY' ASSURANCES SOUGHT UNCLASSIFIED

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BY THE ISRAELIS...

HAK HAS LONG BELEIVED THAT SADAT AND RABIN, IF ALLOWED TO ACT ACCORDING TO THEIR VIEWS, COULD PROBABLREACH AN ACCORD RATHER EASILY. .. RABIN IS UNDER CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL PRESSURE NOT TO RELINQUISH FURTHER SINAI TERRITORY EXCEPT IN EXCHANGE FOR CERTAIN AND VISIBLE MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE. THE KIND OF SECRET ASSURANCES THAT WERE PART OF THE JANUARY 1974, DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, CONVEYED TO ISRAEL BY HAK, ARE CONSIDERED UNACCEPTABLE TO MOST ISRAELIS FOR A SECOND-STAGE WITHDRAWAL...

HAK SYMPATHIZES WITH WHAT HE VIEWS AS SADAT'S PROBLEMS WITH OTHER ARABS IN MAKING A SEPARATE ACCORD WITH ISRAEL WITHOUT ANY ASSURANCES THAT A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT CAN BE WORKED OUT WITH SYRIA OR THE PLO.

HE HOPES TO OBTAIN A FORMULA THAT WOULD SET UP NEW ISRAELI-SYRIAN TALKS, EITHER FOR A LIMITED AGREEMENT, UP TO NOW REJECTED BY ISRAEL, OR FOR A FINAL PEACE. SUCH TALKS COULD BE IN A RECONVENED GENEVA CONFERENCE OR OUTSIDE IT.

PRESSURE IS MOUNTING FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AND THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE IT WILL BE CALLED WHATEVER THE SUCCESS OF HAK IN HIS LATEST MISSION. BUT HE REFUSES TO SAY DEFINITELY THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN.

2. WASHPOST (BERGER, JERUSALEM, PAGE 8) - HEADLINE: IN ISRAEL: A HOPE FOR PEACE, AN ATMOSPHERE OF RESIGNATION EXCERPTS: ... MANY ISRAELIS EXPRESS A FERVENT LONGING FOR PEACE AND AN ALMOST MYSTICAL CONVICTION THAT IF THEY COULD ONLY TALK WITH THE NEIGHBORING ARABS, VISIT THEM, TRADE WITH THEM, SOME MIRACULOUS CHEMISTRY WOULD DISSIPATE THE DANGER OF WAR.

PARADOXICALLY, THE SAME ISRAELIS ARE DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN THEIR SEPARATENESS FROM THE ARABS, NEVER TO BE ABSORBED COMPLETELY INTO THEIR REGION ...

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IN A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BEFORE THE RECENT PALESTINIAN TERRORIST RAID ON TEL AVIV, A VISITOR FOUND SURPRISINGLY LITTLE HATRED FOR THE ARABS - THE ENEMY OF FOUR WARS - AND WIDE-SPREAD UNDERSTANDING FOR THEM ...

BUT IF MOST ISRAELIS DO NOT HATE THE ARABS, THEY ARE CONVINCED THAT THE ARABS HATE THEM AND WANT TO DESTROY THEIR COUNTRY ...

EVEN MANY OF THE ISRAELIS WHO WANT TO GIVE BACK ALL THE CAPTURED ARAB TERRITORIES REMAIN UNCONVINCED THAT PEACE WOULD FOLLOW ..

EXCEPT IN JERUSALEM, WHERE MAYOR KOLLEK HAS ORGANIZED A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS WHERE ARAB AND JEWISH CHILDREN MEET IN THE JEWISH MUSEUM OR ON THE SOCCER FIELDS, THERE IS LITTLE CONTACT BETWEEN THE TWO SOCIETIES.

MOST SCHOOLS ARE SEPARATE.

WIRES

1. AP (SCHWEID, ASWAN) - KISSINGER OPENED A NEW ME PEACE MISSION TODAY, SEEKING CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM SADAT FOR A BROAD SETTLEMENT IN SINAI WITH ISRAEL.

"I CAME TO EGYPT BECAUSE I BELIEVE PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IS POSSIBLE," HAK SAID AFTER ARRIVING AT THE ASWAN MILITARY AIRPORT. "I WILL DO ALL IN MY POWER TO ACHIEVE THIS."

ASKED HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS, HAK REPLIED: "AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, I HOPE." ...

HAK PLANNED EXTENSIVE TALKS WITH SADAT THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING WHEN HE FLIES TO DAMASCUS TO ASSURE SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD THAT U.S. STRATEGY IS NOT DIRECTED AT ISOLATING SYRIA FROM THE PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL.

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HAK GOES TO JERUSALEM ON SUNDAY NIGHT. HIS AIDES SAID HE PLANS TO FLY BACK TO BRUSSELS IN ABOUT A WEEK TO MEET WITH GROMYKO ON THE ME AND WITH TURKISH FM ESENBEL ON CYPRUS PROBLEMS.

2. UPI (LANDRY, ASWAN) - HAK SAID TODAY HE WOULD STAY IN THE ME UNTIL HE ACHIEVED "DEFINITE PROGRESS" TOWARD PEACE. ...

ARRIVING FOR THE FIRST LEG OF WHAT COULD BE A MARATHON DIPLOMATIC SHUTTLE, HAK SAID, I CAME TO EGYPT BECAUSE I BELIEVE PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IS POSSIBLE. I'LL DO MY VERY BEST, AND I PLAN TO STAY IN THE AREA UNTIL WE HAVE ACHIEVED DEFINITE PROGRESS." ...

HIS FIRST JOB IS TO GET EGYPT'S CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD PULL BACK ISRAELI FORCES FROM THE STRATEGIC GIDI AND MITLA PASSES AND FROM THE ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELD IN THE SINAI PENINSULA ...

AMERICAN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE PUT THEMSELVES INTO SUCH A POSITION THAT REACHING AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE THE BEST THING TO DO. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE PREPARED PUBLIC OPINION FOR IT.

A SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL, HOWEVER, SAID HAK STILL WAS NOT SURE ABOUT THE MAJOR DETAILS WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER HE COULD BRING IT ABOUT.

IN EXCHANGE FOR AN ISRAEL WITHDRAWAL, EGYPTIAN SOURCES

SAID, CAIRO IS READY TO GIVE THE UNITED STATES A PLEDGE NOT TO ATTACK ISRAEL AS LONG AS NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE TOWARD AN EVENTUAL OVERALL ME PEACE SETTLEMENT.

THIS COULD BE MONTHS, IF NOT YEARS. EGYPT WANTS A SIMILAR PLEDGE FROM ISRAEL TO RULE OUT ANY ATTACK AGAINST SYRIA AS WELL AS EGYPT.

THE EGYPTIAN SOURCES SAID CAIRO WOULD ALLOW PASSAGE OF ISRAELI CARGO ON THE SUEZ CANAL AS PART OF THE AGREE-UNCLASSIFIED

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MENT, BUT ISRAELI SHIPS WOULD BE BARRED UNTIL AN OVERALL ME PEACE HAD BEEN ACHIEVED.

THE SOURCES ALSO SAID EGYPT WOULD NOT TAKE OVER SINAI POSITIONS VACATED BY ISRAEL BUT WOULD AGREE TO PUT THE STRATEGIC MOUNTAIN PASSED UNDER CONTROL OF U.N. PEACE-KEEPING FORCES.

THIS FALLS SHORT OF THE ISRAELI DEMAND FOR A DIRECT PLEDGE BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL TO END THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY BETWEEN THEM WHATEVER HAPPENS ELSEWHERE IN THE ME. THIS MAY BE THE CRUCIAL POINT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

HANGING OVER THE TALKS WAS THE SHADOW OF THE PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA ATTACK ON A TEL AVIV HOTEL, IN WHICH 18 PERSONS, INCLUDING SEVEN COMMANDOS, WERE KILLED.

THERE WAS SPECULATION AMONG THE AMERICAN PARTY HERE ON WHETHER THE ISRAELIS WOULD RETALIATE AND WHAT EFFECT IT WOULD HAVE. ...

3. REUTERS (PRENTICE, ASWAN) - WITH A KISS ON BOTH CHEEKS FROM EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER TODAY BEGAN AN INTENSIVE EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE A NEW MILITARY DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. ...

HAK SAID ON HIS ARRIVAL HERE EARLIER TODAY: "I PLAN TO STAY IN THE AREA (THE ME) UNTIL WE HAVE ACHIEVED SOME DEFINITE PROGRESS."

AFTER DAY-LONG TALKS WITH SADAT, KISSINGER WILL FLY TOMORROW TO SYRIA AND THEN ON TO ISRAEL.

HE IS THEN EXPECTED TO SHUTTLE BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN ASWAN AND JERUSALEM SEEKING A FURTHER ISRAELI MILITARY ASWAN AND JERUSALEM SEEKING A FURTHER ISRAELI MILITARY PULL-BACK IN THE SINAI DESERT.

SADAT URGED REPORTERS TO HAVE PATIENCE, SUGGESTING THE

NEGOTIATIONS ARE LIKELY TO BE LENGTHY.
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U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THE NEGOTIATIONS MAY LAST TWO
TO THREE WEEKS ...

HAK, ON HIS 11TH VISIT TO THE ME, APPEARED OPTIMISTIC
THAT HE COULD ACHIEVE AN AGREEMENT ...

AS PREPARATIONS WERE MADE FOR THE SADAT-HAK TALKS, EGYPT
APPEARED DETERMINED THAT THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE'S
LATEST PEACE EFFORTS SHOULD NOT BE DAMAGED BY THIS
WEEK'S ATTACK ON A HOTEL IN TEL AVIV, FOR WHICH
PALESTINE GUERRILLAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

EGYPT HAS INCREASINGLY SHOWN THAT IT WILL NOT ALLOW

PALESTINIAN OBJECTIONS TO INTERFERE WITH EFFORTS BY CAIRO
TOWARDS AN INTERIM MILITARY AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL. ...

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